

CLASSIFICATION <u>CONFIDENTIAL</u>		
COUNTRY <u>Poland</u>	REPORT	
TOPIC <u>Air Force training field near Selesen (Zelazo)</u>		25X1
EVALUATION <u></u>	PLACE OBTAINED <u></u>	25X1
DATE OF CONTENT <u></u>		
DATE OBTAINED <u></u>	DATE PREPARED <u>30 August 1954</u>	25X1
REFERENCES		
PAGES <u>2</u>	ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE) <u>1-sketch on ditto</u>	
REMARKS <u>This is UNEVALUATED</u>		25X1

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1. In 1953, an air force bombing and firing range was established by the Poles in the area about 3 km north of Selesen (54°39' N/17°16' E), about 2 km east of Schmolzin (54°40' N/17°13' E) and south of Holzkathen (54°41' N/17°15' E), Pomerania. The area was located between Garder Lake and Leba Lake. It bordered on woods to the east and on the Drenkenhof Canal to the north. The village of Holzkathen was still occupied. The training area was located in a moist meadow which, in the spring of 1953, had been released for agricultural purposes. Some portions of the area had been plowed and showed specific shapes which served as targets from the air. The portions which were not plowed were marked with white lime. Some tank, motor vehicle dummies etc. were placed in the area by Polish Air Force soldiers. No buildings or other type installations were observed on the training field up to March 1954.
2. Jet aircraft with considerably swept-back wings and single-engine piston aircraft with straight wings were observed in connection with the bombing and firing range. The two aircraft types had the Polish nationality marking and, according to a local resident who conducted plowing work by order of the Polish Air Force, were assigned to the Stolp-Beitz (54°27' N/17°03' E) airfield. The jet aircraft usually flew individually and only seldom in elements of two. They approached from comparatively low altitudes and fired with aircraft weapons at the ground targets. After the first attack, they usually banked and attacked another time. These practices were made only during daytime and in fair weather during the summer. The single-engine conventional aircraft in addition to bombing also conducted firing practices with aircraft armament. Two small bombs apparently of cement were dropped each time. Fragments of these bombs and parts of the stabilizing fins which were of sheet metal were scattered over the entire training area. The aircraft usually approached individually. The practices were made up until late fall of 1953. During the winter of 1953/1954 and including March 1954, no air activity was conducted. During the summer months, the practice flights were made during the morning or afternoon, 2 or 3

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

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- 2 -

days a week.<sup>2</sup>

3. The following buildings were constructed outside of but apparently in connection with the described training area:  
 A wooden tower, 42 meters high, 2 km southeast of Selesen on a hill covered with wood. Work on the foundation was started in March 1954.  
 A 37-meter-high tower about 2 km northeast of Schmolsin, at the southern side of the Brenkenhof Canal. It was completed by March 1954.  
 Two low hangars, each with 3 gates, about 1 km northwest of the latter tower. Work was done in 1953.  
 As of March 1954, the purpose of the towers and hangars had still not been determined. Rumors had it that they were connected with the described air force training field near Selesen or with a new airfield planned to be constructed in the Selesen area.<sup>3</sup>

1.  Comment. For sketch of air force firing range, see Annex. 25X1
2.  Comment. The jet aircraft observed probably are MiG-15s of the fighter regiment stationed at Stolp-Reitz airfield. The voiced assumption that the propeller-driven aircraft also came from Stolp-Reitz airfield is doubted. It is possible that the latter aircraft belong to a ground attack unit.
3.  Comment. No information has been received so far on the intended construction of a new airfield in the Selesen area. The buildings reported are probably connected with the air force firing range. 25X1

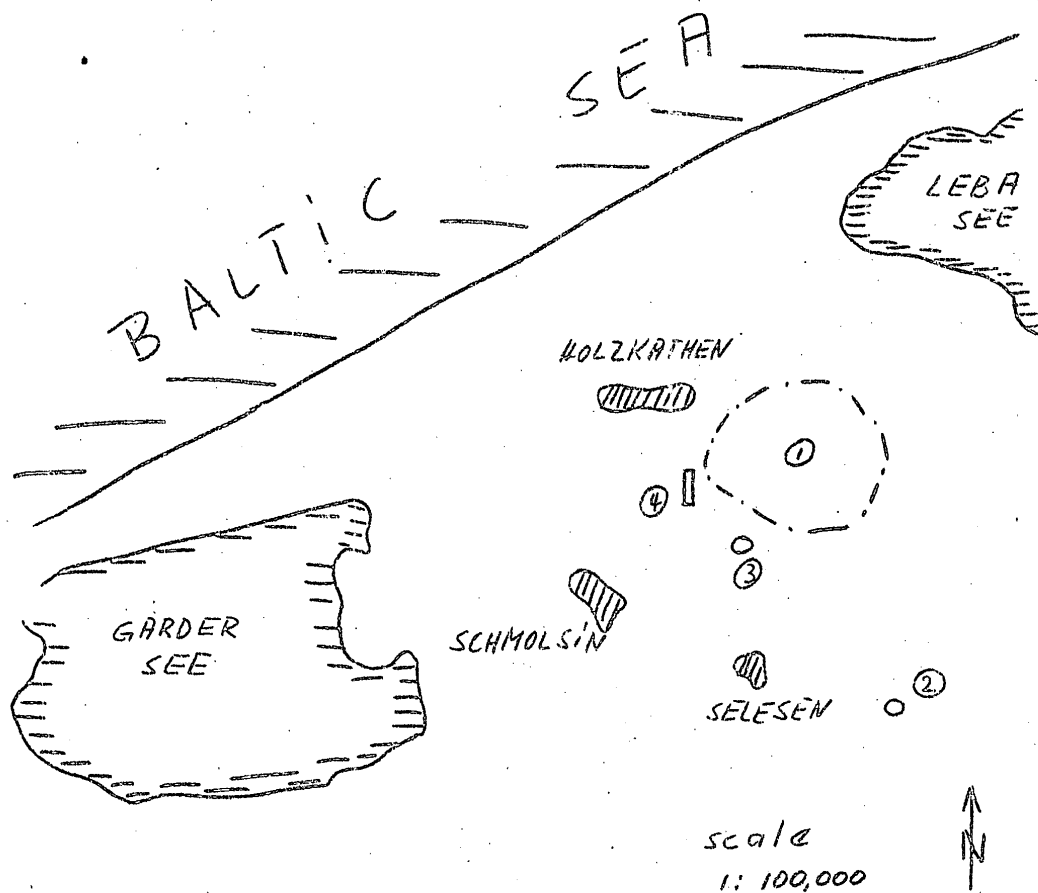
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Annex

Selesen Bombing and Firing Range



legend:

- 1 Air force bombing and firing range
- 2 Wooden tower, 42 meters high, 2 km southeast of Selesen
- 3 Tower, 37 meters high, about 2 km northeast of Schmolsin
- 4 Two low hangars, about 1 km northwest of the latter tower

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